

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	
Barbara Muller	:	
	)	Examiner: Wilson, John
U.S. Application No.: 10/564,576	:	
	)	Group Art Unit: 3732
Filed: July 21, 2004	:	
	)	Confirmation No.: 9612
For: RETRACTION THREAD WITH IMPROVED	:	
ABSORBENCY	)	April 10, 2009

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

The Election of Species Requirement mailed on March 13, 2009, found that the application contains the following species:

Species I drawn to a part circle as shown in FIG. 1;

Species II drawn to a V-shape as shown in FIGS. 2A and 2B; and

Species III drawn to a polygon not shown in the drawings.

The Restriction Requirement also stated that currently pending claims 1, 11, 13, 15 and 23 are generic. Thus, Applicants are required to provisionally elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, Species III drawn to a polygon not shown in the drawings. Claims 6-9 and 14 correspond to Species III. This election is made with traverse because the Examiner has improperly combined the cross-sectional areas of Species I and III with the first sectional plane of Species II. The cross-sectional area is different than the first

sectional plane. FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a cross-sectional area, while FIG. 2A is a first sectional plane. Thus, the claims associated with Species II, namely Claims 10 and 16-22, should not be included in this Requirement and are generic claims.

Action on the merits of this application is respectfully requested. Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 625-3536. All correspondence should be directed to the address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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